

Semi-Annual Technical Progress Report
for the Period January 31 to October 31, 2004

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Bridges and Road Rehabilitation
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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Transatlantic Programs Center

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The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Transatlantic Programs Center, is assisting the U.S. Agency for International Development-Madagascar in addressing one of USAID's strategic goals for its work in Madagascar, specifically Strategic Goal Three, Biological Diverse Ecosystems Preserved in Priority Conservation Zones. The Corps' assistance consists of constructing or repairing three bridges along highway RN6 at mile markers 30, 32, and 50.

Two contractors were awarded contracts in 2003. ICC-Madagascar was awarded the design and construction contract for the three bridges. Rakotoson Andrianomanana Hariniaina, was awarded a contract to provide quality assurance services. Both contracts were modified several times during the project, the last modification extended the completion dates to October 20, 2004.

The original completion date for the three bridges was affected by extremely poor weather during the 2003-2004 rainy season. Coupled with the poor condition of RN6 which made the highway impassable, progress could not be made on the bridges. Thus, the original completion date for all three bridges of March 31, 2004, was changed. The completion dates were also revised to accommodate changes requested by the Madagascar Ministry of Public Works. The first bridge to be completed was PK50, the second PK30, and the last, PK32. Acceptance of the three bridges occurred in October 2004. During the last field visit by the Corps team, a load test was performed at PK32 and a load test was re-performed at PK50. The work is now completed.

Besides the changes to the contract completion dates, the Strategic Objective Agreement expiration date was changed three times and then the Participating Agency Support Agreement. Both expire after October 31, 2004.